1:Nimuendajú E-5 (1941-1942) 1952
SQ20 Tucuna SQ20

together with cipó, 180 cm. long, more or less, which permits the fish to enter but not to escape (fig. 5). Nowadays it is the custom to close this door at midnight in order to place the drug (timbó) in the water of the channel by five o'clock in the morning.[11] 226

Formerly, a cone-shaped basket (T., pęre:'; Lg., *jiquy*) was also placed at the entrance of the weir. This was made of anajá strips, its length being 2.5 m., the mouth 1 m. in diameter; from the mouth inward there was a sort of funnel made of stems with sharp points to impede the return of the fish, once they had entered. With this, as has been already mentioned, the Tukuna use the stupefying juices of certain plants, small bushes called generically "timbó" in the lingua geral. The most active poison is provided by a broad-leafed species, ę'ịn, which crops up nearly spontaneously in old second-growth jungles but is often cultivated as well, even today. Aside from this there are a large-leafed species, va'ị/pę, and one with tiny leaves, na:'mi, both being cultivated. The drugged fish are captured with a dip net, puçá (described on p. 00). Certain fish, such as *acarís*, are even caught by hand. [278]

The species of greatest economic importance are: 226 825

Lingua geral	*Scientific*	*Tukuna*
pirarucú	*Arapaima gigas*	dö'ëi
tambaquí	*Colossoma bidens*	to'makaĕi
curimatã	*Prochilodus* sp.	kanö'ya
aracú	*Leporinus* sp.	o'ta
tucunaré	*Cichla* sp.	tukuna'ri
pacú	*Myteles* sp.	a"ta'ĭnaikị
sardinha (P.)	*Chalcinus* sp.	a'raviri
surubim	*Platystoma* sp.	dyu'ta
piranha	*Serrasalmo* sp.	vẽu'ma
trahira	*Macrodon* sp.	dö
matrinchan	*Characinus* sp.	aööë''

Aquatic chelonians are shot with the arrow harpoon (sararáca), or are surprised while laying eggs on the beach. The turtle of the species *Emys amazonica* (ba:'vë), now threatened with extinction, is no longer an important food for the Tukuna; but the species *E. dumeriliana* (tərí')[12] is still abundant, and it, as well as its eggs, plays an important role in the aboriginal kitchen. The *matamatá* (*Chelys fimbriata*; T., nayarë) is rare. 225

The peixe-boi, or manatee (*Manatus inunguis*; T., a'iruvë), is rarely caught. The Tukuna do not kill the red dolphin (*Delphinus* sp.), notwithstanding their dislike for it because it scares away the fish.

Hunting

Game, which was tolerably abundant until about fifty years ago, is now rare because of the rise in the price of leather and the use of modern firearms which are sold to the Indians. In some isolated sloughs a lucky hunter may succeed in killing a tapir, pig, or deer. 224 [177]

[11] Literal translation; meaning not clear. Possibly the door is closed at this time in order to collect enough fish during these hours to justify the use of the drug.—Trans.

[12] On p. 25 this species is given as *Emys tracaja*; on p. 22 the author refers to it as *Podocnemis*.—Trans.

1:Nimuendajú E-5 (1941-1942) 1952
SQ20 Tucuna SQ20

224 The Indians go in twos and threes on these hunts. In the jungle close to the
262 settlements, the agouti (*Dasyprocta* sp.) is the most common game; after that, a
136 rodent, the *paca* (*Coelogenys paca*), and the raccoon, *coatí* (*Nasua socialis*). With some persistence the Tukuna are still able to collect for the obligatory roasts (*moquedo*) of the feasts enough monkeys of the following species: *prego* (*Cebus* sp.), *barrigudo* (*Lagothrix* sp.), *coatá* (*Ateles* sp.), *parauacú* (*Pithecia* sp.), and *guariba* (*Alouatta* sp.).

The following animals are so rare as to lack economic importance: *coandú* (*Cercolabes* sp.); anteater, *mambira* (*Myrmecophaga tetradactyla*); armadillo, *tatú* (*Dasypus* sp.). The otter, *lontra* (*Pteronura* sp.), another enemy of fishermen, is never eaten.

223 Of feathered game the most important are a forest turkey, the *mutum* (*Mitua*
262 *mitu*); the *jacú* (*Penelope* sp.); and wild pigeons (*Columba* sp.; *Leptoptila* sp.).
136 The red and yellow macaws, *araras* (*Ara macao* and *A. ararauna*, respectively), parrots (*Amazona* sp.), parakeets (*Conurus* sp.), toucans (*Rhamphastos* sp.), and *japú* (*Ostinops decumanus*, Pall.) are killed more for their feathers than for their flesh.

The vulture, *urubú* (*Cathartes urubu*), is not eaten, nor are the *anhumá* (*Palamedea cornuta*) or the *cigana* (*Opisthocomus hoazin*).

225 As for caimans, the Indians will occasionally eat the young of the species called
262 *jacaré-tinga* (*Caiman yacare*) by the Neobrazilians. The tortoise, jabóti (*Testudo*
136 *tabulata*),[2] is little used. The Tukuna will eat some species of snakes.

Weapons.—Almost all the Indians now hunt with firearms, some with simple muzzle-loading smoothbores, others with good, breech-loading; double-barrelled
41 pieces. Very infrequently some still use the blowgun, *caranatána*, originally their national weapon for small game, above all, for monkeys.

411 The Tukuna blowgun (i"ë') is the largest of all those known, being usually more than 3 m. long. With the aid of tools now at their disposal, the Tukuna manufacture
322 it as follows. The material they prefer is a solid-ground jungle tree called *punau* (*Iryanthera tricornis*, Ducke; T., pu'rune), lacking which they substitute the wood of the *bacabinha* (*Oenocarpus multicaulis* Spr.?), called in Tukuna "nyë." They bring to the house a piece of sufficient size, trim it, and later work it into the shape of a long, slender rod with four planed surfaces, 3.5 m. long by 7 cm. After sawing this lengthwise through the center, they gouge out a longitudinal furrow some 6 cm. wide from end to end in each section. Near the house, they then seek a tree, which should have a thick, more or less horizontal limb about 6 m. above the ground. From this limb they stretch a length of *cipó guembé* (*Philodendron* sp.) vertically to the ground, and lash a beam to it horizontally just above the ground, its weight keeping the cipó taut.

Around this length of peeled cipó they erect a platform of saplings, permitting a craftsman to stand erect, close to the cipó and about 2.5 m. above the ground; another man stays on the ground below. To the length of cipó they then bind the two lengths of wood, with the grooved sides facing inward, and pour over them water containing sand. The two pieces, now strongly bound together so as to form one unit, they pull up and down, keeping the cipó tightly stretched. With this

[2] On p. 19 the author calls this *Emys tabulata* as well.—Trans.